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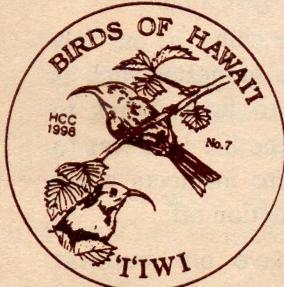
NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

VOL. 18 NO. 53

Birds of Hawaii

NUMBER SEVEN

By Irving Kam



The evolutionary history of Hawaii's avian inhabitants is a remarkable study of Mother Nature's might and her wonderment of adaptability. Research reveals that as few as 15 original species can be linked to well over 70 types of native birds presumed to have evolved here before the arrival of man. Quite amazing even when considering that the Hawaiian Islands emerged from the ocean depths devoid of plant or animal life and almost 2,400 miles from the nearest continental land mass.

One such specimen, the I'iwi, belongs to a family of Hawaiian honeycreepers which evolved from a single ancestor into at least 23 species and 24 subspecies. This bird developed a long rose colored curved bill to accomodate the island's exotic flora when gathering nectar and small insects. Its coloration is defined as a bright scarlet head, body, legs and with a black tail. Its wings are also primarily black but with a distinctive white patch on the inner flight feathers. Often described as the most striking in appearance of the honeycreepers, the I'iwi's plumage were used extensively by the ancient Hawaiians for their magnificent skill at featherwork. The bird can still be found today on the Big Island of Hawaii, on Maui, Kauai and

AUGUST 22, 1998

very rarely on Oahu or Molokai but no longer on Lanai where it has succumbed to extinction. The I'iwi's scientific name is Vestiaria Coccinea and is an endemic species to the Hawaiian Island group.

Our club treasurer, Charlie Matsuda, has once again executed a splendid rendering of the latest addition to the Birds of Hawaii series. Mintage of one ounce .999 fine silver and bronze pairs is limited to two hundred and fifteen sets. The 39mm medals are packaged with attractively illustrated inserts as well as matching envelopes. They will initially be made available at the club's annual Statehood Day Coin Show and by mail thereafter.

Sales via the postal system is \$28.00 postpaid/insured and all orders may be directed to: Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.

Aloha! Pau.

HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

35th Annual

COIN SHOW

QUEEN KAPIOLANI HOTEL

HOURS: THURS - NOV 12TH 12 NOON - 7 PM

FRI - NOV 13TH 10 AM - 7 PM

DOOR PRIZES SAT - NOV 14TH 10 AM - 7 PM

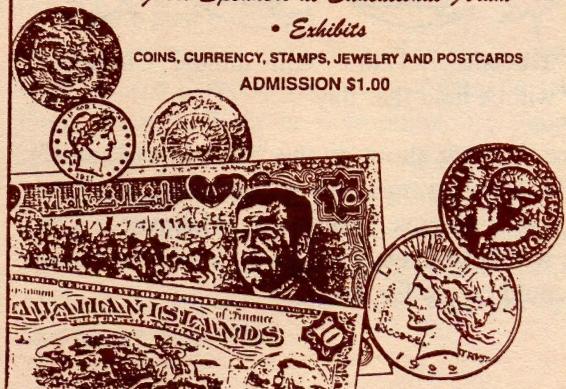
SUN - NOV 15TH 10 AM - 4 PM

• Guest Speakers at Educational Forum

• Exhibits

COINS, CURRENCY, STAMPS, JEWELRY AND POSTCARDS

ADMISSION \$1.00



WHY WAR NICKELS?

By Christine Izuo
HCC Jr Member



What is the composition of a nickel? Right, nickel!! Why then did the Mint take the nickel out of the nickel during World War II? Instead of using the normal 75% copper and 25% nickel to make a nickel, the Mint used an alloy of 56% copper, 35% silver and 9% manganese.

There isn't a conclusive answer as to why the Mint did not use nickel in the composition of the nickels from 1942-1945, but most people believe that the Mint was sacrificing their nickel to support the war. Even though statistics prove that only about 827,163 pounds of nickel is used in nickel production each year out of the 300 million pounds of nickel produced per year, that 0.46% of the metal saved was enough to boost the morale of the public. Every time the public saw the enlarged mintmark atop Monticello which symbolized the non-nickel nickels, they knew the United States Mint was doing its part for the war effort.

Even though everyone may not believe in this "morale booster" theory, I like to believe that it was true. I think if it were true, the Mint was very nice to support the war effort. Despite how insignificant the savings of nickel was, I think the gesture was most appropriate.

ATTENTION!!

Save December 12th. Our annual Christmas party will be held that day.

We are thinking about giving "Christmas Bucks" for attendance at meetings or for giving a talk -- be it coins, stamps, beanies or whatever. The bucks would be used at the party to bid for items that would be up for auction.

THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB WANTS YOU!

By Mark Von Wronski



Over the last several years, participation at our meetings has fallen off. Why? We're not exactly sure. That is why we are asking for your help. What are your interests? What kind of presentations would you like to have? What other kinds of ideas do you have? Would you be willing to or do you know somebody who would come to a meeting and give a talk?

We are trying to revitalize the club. At our July 8th meeting, some ideas were suggested such as possibly allowing members to bring items to trade with other members. Another idea was to have an "auction night" where members could bring up to 5 items (lots) to auction off.

Other possibilities are to have one business meeting and one social meeting per month.

The bottom line is we, the officers, need to know what the membership wants and we will do everything possible to bring you what you want. The downside is that we might have to go to one meeting per month but we don't want to. In the next issue, we hopefully will have a calendar of events if we get enough input from the membership.

Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated. After all, this is your club! Don't wait for the other guy to tell us what you want.

Please feel free to call me at (808) 839-7789 8AM to 4:30PM or (808) 839-7247 5-9PM or drop an anonymous note to HCC, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, HI 96818.

MAHALO!

ATTENTION, BOYS AND GIRLS!

Be a Jr. Member
at HCC
Membership
is Free!

COIN QUIZ

BY MARC SHIMIZU

Test your numismatic knowledge by taking the following quiz on coins struck by the United States Mint. Hint: Some of these are "trick" questions and the answers may surprise you. Good Luck!

1. How many major types or varieties of nickels were minted in 1883?
2. How many times does Abraham Lincoln appear on today's circulating coinage?
3. In what year was the 1804 silver dollar minted?
4. In what year were the last "Peace" silver dollars minted?
5. In 1873, how many different types of coins were struck by the U.S. Mint?
6. How many different types of pennies have been struck by the U.S. Mint?
7. When did a president first appear on a U.S. coin?
8. Which assassinated president was the first to appear on a U.S. coin?
9. Who was the first person to appear on a U.S. coin while still living?
10. Who was the first woman to appear on a U.S. coin while still living?

COIN QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Four--Liberty nickel without "cents", Liberty nickel with "cents", Shield nickel, Three-Cent nickel.
2. Twice--Lincoln cent obverse and Lincoln cent (Memorial) reverse (look between the columns).
3. The 1804 silver dollar is believed to have been minted in 1834.
4. In 1965, over 300,000 Peace silver dollars (dated 1964) were minted. All were reported melted, although a few are rumored to exist.
5. Seventeen different types (not to mention several major varieties) of coins were minted in 1873. They include the Indian cent; Two-cent

piece; Three-cent silver; Three-cent nickel; Shield nickel; Seated half dime; dime; quarter; half dollar; and dollar; Trade dollar; gold dollar; quarter eagle (2.50 gold piece); Three dollar gold piece; half eagle (5.00 gold piece); eagle (10.00 gold piece) and double eagle (20.00 gold piece). Compare that to the mere five different denominations minted today!

6. None. The United States Mint has never coined a "penny" out of defiance toward the Mother country of England which does make "pennies". The U.S. Mint has only issued "cents".
7. President George Washington appeared on the Lafayette commemorative silver dollar, issued in 1900.
8. President William McKinley appeared on the Louisiana Purchase Expo commemorative gold dollar issued in 1903.
9. Senator Joseph T. Robinson of Arkansas was the first living person to be shown on a U.S. mint coin. He appears on the 1936 Arkansas (Robinson) Centennial commemorative half dollar.
10. Eunice Kennedy Shriver appeared on the 1995 Special Olympics Games silver dollar.

BICC NEWS

Congratulations to the re-election of the entire slate of officers and Board of Directors. They are as follows: Derrick Ah Sing, president; George Paiva, vice president; Rob Zimmerman, recording secretary; Hunter Bishop, corresponding secretary; Byron Toma, treasurer; Fred Woodby, sergeant-at-arms; directors--Jerry Kodani, Virginia Dicks, Greg Eliades, Jim Moore, Don Nigro, P.J. Couvillion and Paul Moffet. Wayne Yamauchi will serve as immediate past president.

Walt Southward was unanimously elected member and Director Emeritus of the Big Island Coin Club. Walt is continuing to make a remarkable recovery following his stroke.

Congratulations to Walt Southward who was recently named to the University of Hawaii at Hilo Vulcan Sports Hall of Fame and was also recently named 1997 Member of the Year by the Big Island Press Club.

Lets Trade

By Ted Ho

Trading is probably the one way of increasing a collection that few collectors use. Most collectors are used to having to sell their unwanted coins before they can make new purchases. The main risk in trading is that you may not have what the other person wants for a desired coin. Although it is possible to trade through the mail, a face to face trade is the easiest. Both parties can see and discuss the coins to be considered in a short period of time. Trades by mail, while they may yield excellent results, take much longer. If everything goes perfectly, a month is a short period of time for trade by mail. If there are complications, it can take much longer, although E-mail can cut that time. Even so, this writer has done many trades by mail including one for a 1942 half dollar in PROOF. That particular trade resulted from answering an ad placed by a collector in a booklet meant especially for traders. Ads for trades can also be found in the classified section of major hobby publications. While dealers are always willing to consider anything that you have to trade, the best values are trades between collectors. A dealer by definition is in business and must make a profit to stay in business. Trades between collectors usually use a major value guide such as Coin World Trends to value coins so neither party has an advantage. Although any collector welcomes any profit, the main consideration is the improvement of one's collection.

While just about anything can be traded, the easiest is 90% silver. Unfortunately, it is also the most expensive to do by mail because of its bulk. Key dates are also easy to trade if you are willing to part with them. The writer had no problem finding an eager trader for a Fine 1913 half dollar when disposing of his Barber halves. On the other hand, finding a key date coin available is not easy.

One thing to keep in mind is that a trade does not have to be limited to collectible coins. If you just want to get rid of bulk coins or sets that have no real market, it is best to take 90% silver.

It is unlikely that you can trade bulk for a coin you want and the 90% will be easier to trade later.

Whether improving your collection or just cleaning out your surplus, give trading a try. You may be able to make some additions to your collection and also have some fun.

Anybody got a nice 1937 proof quarter to trade for a 1914D \$2 1/2 NGC MS-60?



IN MEMORIAM

Andy Nagy

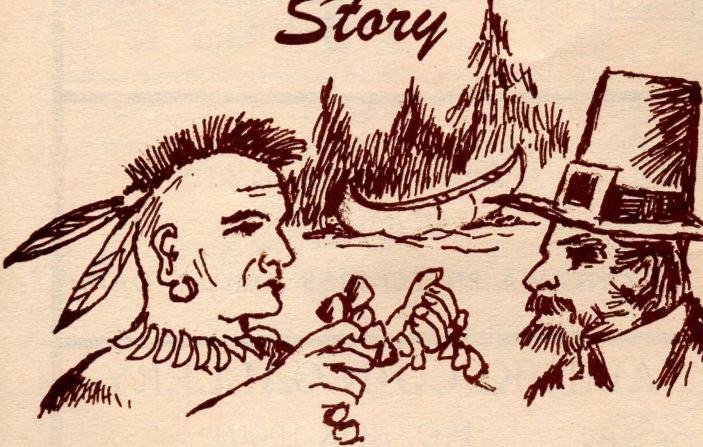
We were saddened to hear of the passing of Andrew "Andy" Nagy, 78, owner of Andy's Stamp and Coin Shop in Wahiawa for the past 25 years. He was past president of the HCC for many years. For his outstanding service to the club and hobby, he was given life membership, one of only six members to receive this honor.

Andy is survived by his wife Bernice, daughter Barbara, son in law Dennis and family. Aloha, Andy.

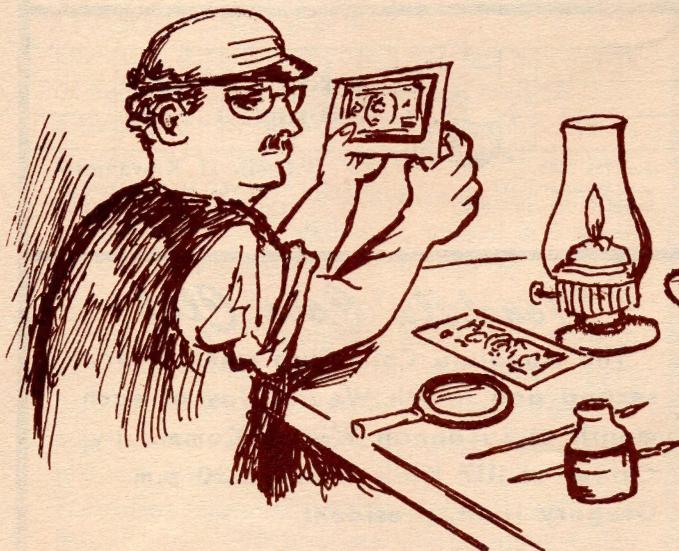
Betty Young

We recently heard of the passing of an HCC and HSNA member, Betty Young, wife of "Pappy" Young. She was a very friendly and pleasant individual. She was a regular member at the November HSNA Coin Show. She was a long time member (35 yrs) of the Oceanside/Carlsbad Coin Club and the group's secretary for 33 years. She was a Young Numismatist Representative for the San Diego County Inter Club Numismatist Council. She was also a member of CSNA and ANA. She and Howard (Pappy) were named Numismatic News Ambassadors in 1988. She is survived by her husband, son, Neil and daughter, Beverly. Aloha, Betty.

The Counterfeiting Story



Counterfeiting has been a crime for as long as money itself. In America, during the Colonial period, Indian wampum was used as money and the Indians often turned to counterfeiting by dyeing their white shells into dark blue making them look like much more valuable darker shells. Then there was Emanuel Ninger, a talented engraver who traced real banknotes, then hand-colored his counterfeits. His nearly perfect currency attracted collectors. Another counterfeiter was Marcus Crahan. He advertised that he had found a large sum of money thinking that if he was caught passing counterfeit notes, he could say that it was part of the money he found.



Some stock companies would hire counterfeiters to duplicate their printed securities. If the copy could be duplicated, they would change their design. This was before today's copier machines.



During World War II, the Germans tried to counterfeit United States currency that would have given our country problems. Thankfully the war ended before they were able to use the worthless currency.

Coming Up in 1999

9th Annual Hawaii Collectors' Expo '99

Blaisdell Exhibition Hall
Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 19, 20, and 21, 1999

Fri: 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Sat: 11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Sun: 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Art, Antiques and
Collectible Marketplace

Admission \$3.00
Children under 12 Free
Senior Citizen \$1.00

